

APHP

Improves health outcomes of pregnant women and newborns through Education & Consultation, Information Management & Research, and Quality & Innovation

APHP promotes maternal health, positive birth outcomes and healthy infancy through education and training to healthcare providers and collecting and monitoring data for surveillance. The data is used to inform and evaluate programs and provides provincial leadership alongside partners and stakeholders.

APHP offers direct support through education, quality, and information to help the consistent delivery of safe, quality care for maternal, newborn, child and youth care across the province. We promote leadership and coordination to healthcare providers that is family centered, culturally competent, and consistent with best practice standards.

Functions of APHP

These functions are inter-dependent: the quality assurance process and the provincial data repository inform quality improvement initiatives and educational strategies and build leadership and capacity within the community of perinatal practice in Alberta.

- leadership & coordination
- information management & research - Perilink database
- quality & innovation - PPQAC
- education & consultation

HIGHLIGHTS

Develop, manage and maintain provincial perinatal database named PeriLink^{AB}

- Perinatal data is collected from all Alberta facilities; 64 in total, as well as from Registered Midwives.
- Over 1,258,046 records are in PeriLink^{AB} for Alberta births between 1992 and 2019.
- The PeriLink^{AB} database collects detailed information on perinatal mortality records and records. There are 14,156 mortality record and 175 maternal death records from 1992 to 2018.

Perilink^{AB} provides comprehensive, clinical provincial data to support the mandate of the APHP. Provides valuable data to APHP stakeholders for:

- program planning and policy making
- development of educational strategies
- quality improvement activities
- analysis/interpretation of provincial data for monitoring/identifying trends or identifying population level issues

Support for Perinatal Research

- Provides a rich source of validated, clinical perinatal data for researchers and perinatal expertise.
- Collaborations with the Universities of Alberta and Calgary, Alberta Health, and Alberta Congenital Anomalies Surveillance System (ACASS)
- 2 major CIHR-funded studies. The REDUCED Trial (goal of reducing the C-section rate in nulliparous low risk mothers) and a study involving the Metis Nation of Alberta comparing maternal and neonatal outcomes for Metis mothers and babies to those of the rest of Alberta.

Study of Perinatal and Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement (PPQAC)

- Oversees the provincial study of maternal, perinatal and neonatal mortality and morbidity to identify trends or issues that require a provincial strategy (Established by the AHS Board as a Quality Assurance Committee as defined by the Alberta Evidence Act (section 9)).
- Contributes to the National Study of Maternal Mortality through the Canadian Perinatal Surveillance System.

Perinatal Health E-Learning Modules

- Provides web-based access to fundamental knowledge in obstetrical and newborn care.
- Used to support orientation to obstetrical practice. Ensures that all learners receive consistent educational content.

Fetal Health Surveillance (FHS)

- Supports fetal health surveillance education in Alberta.
- Supported the transition to 3cm/min tracing speed to standardize with national standards at all Alberta obstetrical sites by December 2019.

Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)

- APHP is the sole provider of the NRP Instructor Courses in Alberta.
- This train the trainer approach builds provincial capacity for neonatal resuscitation.

Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently (moreOB)

- Since 2004, facilitated the implementation of moreOB, a patient safety program in 50 hospitals for over 3300 interdisciplinary health professionals.
- moreOB Improves patient safety through quality improvement, team building and educational activities at the local level.

Consultation

- "One stop shopping" for information on perinatal practice for Alberta health professionals. Consistent information is provided provincially.